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זה הספר	הוא עשה פירוש [לעשרים]
לר' אשר בר	וארבעה ספרים
שולחנו ערוך	והוא עשה משלים
לזמן ארוך כי	והוא עשה המוסר
ענייניו ענתה בו	והוא עשה ספר
אחר מעורב בו	והוא עשה תשוב[ות]
כי הוא נאמן	רבות עמו
וירא אלהיו וסר מרע	והמלאכה
מאשר שמנה לחמו יהי	אשר קמתי
אלהיו עמו אשר נדב לבו לעש[ות]	זה הספר
ספר כזה י' וסיימתיהו ביום ג' כ"א בחדש אב שנת צ"ט לפרט	אלף חמישי ש"ל ואשא משלי ואומר
	השר אשר אשר בין בכסף
	אוסף כי כל בינות ?
	ויבחר לו מעגל צדק
	באשר בחר . . .

It results from these mutilated lines that Elijah copied for R. Asher, son of ? and that Berachiah composed a commentary on the twenty-four books of the Bible, Fables, an ethical treatise, a book [on precious stones?], and Answers (probably the translation of Adelard's *Quæstiones naturales*).

A. NEUBAUER.

מדרש תהלים המכונה שוחר טוב, *Midrasch Tehillim* (Schocher Tob).  
*Sammlung agadischer Abhandlungen über die 150 Psalmen*. . .  
 Von SOLOMON BUBER. Wilna : 1891. 8vo.

HERR SOLOMON BUBER has nearly monopolised the editing of Midrashim. After having brought out critically and exhaustively the *Pesikta*, attributed to R. Kahna, in 1868, the *Tanhuma* in 1885, the *Midrash on the Book of Esther* in 1886, and the *Lekah Tob* of Tobiah ben Eliezer on Genesis and Exodus in 1880, he now follows up his series with the *Midrash on the Psalms*. This edition is based upon eight manuscripts extant in public and private libraries (as far as is known, no other MS. exists of this Midrash), collated with the early editions, and with the quotations in the *Yalkut*; besides, notice is taken of the glosses by Abraham Provenzale. If the learned editor has not supplied all missing passages, it is not his fault, for he could

only give what he found in the MSS. Possibly some lacunæ will be supplied by the edition of the important *Yalkut Makhiri* on the Psalms, of which there is a MS. in the Bodleian Library. Herr Buber has applied to the present edition the same method as in his previous ones, viz., he gives the variations from MSS. and early editions, the references to the Talmudical literature, with his own commentary, and the explanation of foreign words in the copious notes. In the preface, which fills not less than sixty-four pages, he discusses the titles of the Midrash, the name of the compiler, when and where the compilation was made, but he arrives at no certain result. This Midrash was most likely compiled in Southern Italy, and during various centuries, for the work is not done by one hand. In a following chapter the editor tries to explain the contents and aims of our Midrash—subjects which are more difficult to define than the name of the author and the date of the compilation. The alphabetical list of the Tanaim and Amoraim, quoted in our Midrash, is of immense value for comparative study ; so also is that of the foreign words, and of the quotations borrowed from other Midrashim. Of bibliographical importance is the eleventh section, where the editor indicates the Rabbis who made use of our Midrash, the earliest of whom seems to be R. Nissim Gaon (lived about 1040), and the last is Jacob ibn Habib (about 1500). As to later quotations, they are too numerous to give them in a preface. Herr Buber winds up with the description of the MSS. of which he made use, and of the previous eleven editions. He then indicates the additional passages he was able to produce, and, finally, gives the list of quotations from our Midrash in the *Yalkut*, and his short analysis of the present edition will give the reader an idea of the care and of the skill of this experienced editor. Only when we have similar editions of the *Rabboth* and of the *Midrash hag-Gadol* of Yemen, which Mr. Schechter has taken in hand, together with minor Midrashim, printed as well as from MSS., specialists will be able to revise Zunz's results laid down in his incomparable book, *Die Gottesdienstlichen Vorträge*, and complete the literary and critical data concerning Midrashic literature. Unfortunately, we have lost the chief pioneer in this task, in the lamented Dr. Nehemiah Brüll, who prepared a new and revised edition of Zunz's work.

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